



NEWS RELEASE

Anniston Chemical Activity



September 22, 2011

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ANCDF COMPLETES CHEMICAL MUNITIONS DESTRUCTION OPERATIONS

ANNISTON ARMY DEPOT, Ala. (September 22, 2011) - Chemical munitions destruction operations at the Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ANCDF) concluded today when the last tray of 72 mustard agent-filled 105mm projectiles exited the Metal Parts Furnace.

"We made a commitment to the people of Alabama and to the citizens who live and work near or on Anniston Army Depot," said Timothy K. Garrett, ANCDF government project manager. "We committed ourselves to the safe destruction of the entire chemical agent-filled munitions stockpile here.

"And today we fulfilled that commitment when the last mustard-filled artillery shells exited the metal parts furnace in the ANCDF."

Anniston Chemical Activity (ANCA) and ANCDF government and contractor employees have safely destroyed 661,529 nerve agent and mustard agent munitions and 2,254 tons of chemical agent. Destruction operations began August 9, 2003.

Lt.Col. Willie J. Flucker, Anniston Chemical Activity commander, said, "I am very proud of the contributions Anniston Chemical Activity employees made to the safe, professional, and overall efficient storage and destruction of our chemical munitions over the years. These men and women continue to meet and exceed my every expectation."

ANCA's next mission is to conduct cleanup and closure activities in preparation for the eventual inactivation of the organization. ANCA employees are now surveying and testing the storage igloos that were used since 1963 to safely store the munitions. The igloos will be cleaned and tested for any measurable, residual chemical agent before they are returned to the Depot for possible reuse.

(More)

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Closure activities are expected to take 18-24 months. During closure, ANCA will continue to provide protective clothing to the Depot and the ANCDF. ANCA employees will also be preparing their munitions handling equipment for turn in and possible reissue to the remaining two chemical munitions storage sites in Colorado and Kentucky.

In the meantime, ANCDF employees are testing, surveying, decontaminating, and dismantling all areas of the ANCDF that were exposed to chemical agent during the munitions destruction process. Many of the ANCDF facilities will be razed while functional buildings never contaminated will be turned over to the Depot.

ANCDF operations centered on the following three major campaigns:

Nerve Agent GB (August 9, 2003 ~ March 2, 2006):

- Rockets - 42,762
- 8-inch Projectiles - 16,026
- 155mm Projectiles - 9,600
- 105mm Projectiles - 74,040

Nerve Agent VX (July 23, 2006 ~ December 24, 2008):

- Rockets - 35,662
- 155mm Projectiles - 139,581
- Land Mines - 44,131

Mustard Agent (July 2, 2009 ~ September 22, 2011):

- 4.2-inch Mortars - 258,912
- Ton Containers - 108
- 155mm Projectiles - 17,643
- 105mm Projectiles - 23,064

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